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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/695,327	10/27/2003	Yin-Chun Huang	JCLA9689	4865

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BERKELEY LAW & TECHNOLOGY GROUP, LLP
1700 NW 167TH PLACE
SUITE 240
BEAVERTON, OR 97006

EXAMINER

VO, QUANG N

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2625

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
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05/16/2007

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/695,327

Applicant(s)

HUANG ET AL.

Examiner

Quang N. Vo

Art Unit

2625

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 27 October 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-13 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-13 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- 1) ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - 2) ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - 3) ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Ulichney (USPN 4,955,065).

With regard to claim 1, Ulichney discloses a method for reducing image noise (column 3, lines 18-21), wherein the image is composed of a plurality of pixels having a scale of bits, comprising the steps: reducing a plurality of bits of the scale of each pixel in the image (column 1, lines 10-14); and recombining the scale of each pixel in the image (column 3, lines 4-13).

With regard to claim 2, Ulichney discloses wherein after the step of recombining the scale of each pixel in the image, further comprising a step: filling out missing codes of each pixel of the image (column 3, lines 4-13).

With regard to claim 3, Ulichney discloses wherein the step of reducing a plurality of bits of the scale of each pixel in the image can reduce the scale of each pixel in the image (column 6, lines 11-21).

With regard to claim 4, Ulichney discloses wherein the step of recombining the scale of each pixel in the image comprises a halftone pattern method (column 3, lines 65-67).

With regard to claim 5, Ulichney discloses wherein a pattern composed by the halftone pattern method is a matrix pattern (column 12, line 9 – column 13, line 21).

With regard to claim 6, Ulichney discloses wherein the row and column numbers of the matrix pattern are dependent on the number of bits reduced in the step of reducing a plurality of bits of the scale of each pixel in the image (column 10, lines 59-66).

With regard to claim 7, Ulichney discloses wherein the step of filling out missing codes of the pixels of the image comprises a bit enhance method (column 3, lines 8-13).

With regard to claim 8, Ulichney discloses a method for reducing image noise (column 3, lines 18-21), wherein the image is composed of a plurality of pixels having a scale of bits, comprising the steps: reducing a plurality of bits of the scale of each pixel in the image (column 1, lines 10-14); recombining the scale of each pixel in the image; and filling out missing codes of each pixel of the (column 3, lines 4-13).

With regard to claim 9, Ulichney discloses wherein the step of reducing a plurality of bits of the scale of each pixel in the image can reduce the scale of each pixel in the image (column 6, lines 11-21).

With regard to claim 10, Ulichney discloses wherein the step of recombining the scale of each pixel in the image comprises a halftone pattern method (column 3, lines 65-67).

With regard to claim 11, Ulichney discloses wherein a pattern composed by the halftone pattern method is a matrix pattern (column 12, line 9 – column 13, line 21).

With regard to claim 12, Ulichney discloses wherein the row and column numbers of the matrix pattern are dependent on the number of bits reduced in the step of reducing a plurality of bits of the scale of each pixel in the image (column 10, lines 59-66).

With regard to claim 13, Ulichney discloses wherein the step of filling out missing codes of the pixels of the image comprises a bit enhance method (column 3, lines 8-13).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Quang N. Vo whose telephone number is 5712701121. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:30AM-5:00PM Monday-Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Twyler M. Lamb can be reached on 5712727406. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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Quang Vo

Quang N. Vo 5/7/07
Patent Examiner

[Signature]
TWYLER LAMB

SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER